

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 07841 290729Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PA-01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2408
INFO SECDEF
USMISSION USNATO
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SECDEF FOR ISA

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PARM IT
SUBJECT: MOD RUFFINI'S REMARKS TO PARLIAMENT ON THE ERW

MINISTER OF DEFENSE RUFFINI HAS SENT AMBASSADOR GARDNER A PARTIAL RECORD OF HIS REMARKS TO THE PARLIMENT'S DEFENSE COMMITTEE ON APRIL 11. A TRASNSLATION OF THE TEXT, A STRONG DEFENSE OF ITALY'S NATO CONNECTION, IS BEING FORWARDED TO ADDRESSES BY AIRGRAM. RUFFINI'S REMARKS INCLUDED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON ERW AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT

"AS IS KNOWN, A FEW DAYS AGO PRESIDENT CARTER DECIDED TO POSTPONE ANY DECISION ON THE PRODUCTION OR ONON-PRODUCTION OF THE N BOMB, RIGHTLY CONNECTING IT WITH THE DECISIONS THE USSR WILL MAKE WITH REGARD TO THE LIMITATION OF HER MILITARY PROGRAMS, BOTH AS REGARDS CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

"ALREADY IN BARI, SOME COUNTIRES, AS I DID ON BEHALF OF MY COUNTRY, SUGGESTED TO INCLUDE, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, THE SO-CALLED NEUTRON BOMB IN THE NEGOTIATIONS

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ON DISARMAMENT EVEN BEFORE ITS PRODUCTION, IF ANY, BEGINS.

"WE HAVE THEREFORE WELCOMED THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND HOPE FERVIDLY THAT THE SOVIETS' REPLY TO SUCH A RESPONSIBLE DECISION WILL BE SUCH AS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CONSIDER, ALSO FOR THE FUTURE, THE PROBLEM OF THE N BOMB DEFINITELY CLOSED". END TEXT.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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